

SECRET

DDI-2357-79

8 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Economic Research
VIA : Chief, Developing Nations Division
SUBJECT : Termination of Reporting on North Vietnamese
Seaborne Trade

1. The International Transportation Branch of the Office of Economic Research has maintained a complete file on North Vietnam's seaborne trade since 1968. This file -- known as Project Shipper -- was a key source in the intelligence community for data on North Vietnamese trade, major trading partners, and types and volume of cargo carried.

2. Since the fall of Saigon in April 1975 and the ending of OER's research on the war in Southeast Asia during Fiscal 1975, the usefulness of Project Shipper to the intelligence community has waned. Since maintenance of the program requires extensive NSA inputs and the work of one full-time intelligence assistant in the branch, I propose for your review the ending of the program as of the end of 1975 and allocating resources to other areas in D/IT.

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Office of Economic Research

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